

LAST EDITION.

PANIC AT A BIG FIRE.

An Elizabeth Street Factory Destroyed This Morning.

250 Families in Near-By Tenements Fled in Terror.

No Lives Were Lost—Property Loss Estimated Near \$400,000.

Fire broke out shortly after 8 o'clock this morning in the six-story brick building numbered 45, 47 and 49 Elizabeth street, and soon produced a terrible panic in that street and its vicinity and at first threatened great destruction of property and fearful loss of life.

Nearly two hundred people, mostly girls, were employed on the three upper floors of the building, and had just begun their day's work when the fire was discovered. It is believed that every one escaped uninjured.

The fire was discovered by Sam Bernstein, the elevator man, who found the third floor all ablaze.

This was occupied as a store-room by Frederick Goll, manufacturer of parlor furniture, who also occupied the basement and first and second floors as a factory and warehouses.

Alarm Given to the Employees.

Bernstein ran his car up to the upper floors and quickly notified the employees of their danger. They saw a flash of light, and the building down the stairs and fire-escapes and through buildings in the rear.

In twenty minutes the entire building was a mass of flames, which shot up high into the air, carrying with them a dense cloud of smoke and sparks, which were wafted many blocks away by the strong north wind that was blowing.

The scene as witnessed from the dome of the Pulitzer Building was grand as well as terrible, and as viewed from The Evening World office it appeared as though several blocks were at the mercy of the fire.

A second alarm quickly followed the first, and at 9 o'clock a fire engine brought a throng of engines, hook and ladder trucks and the water tower to the scene.

The fifth and sixth floors were occupied by the Altman Summer Necktie Company, and the fourth floor by Berliner, Strauss & Denzer, necktie manufacturers. It was by these firms that girls were rescued from the burning building. The girls were rescued from the burning building. The girls were rescued from the burning building.

Many of the girls lost their hats and wraps, but remained in the neighborhood and, with hundreds of pedestrians on their way to work, watched the ravages of the flames.

The firemen worked like beavers and at 8:45 practically had the flames under control, confining them almost exclusively to the one building. The heat was intense and once or twice buildings on the opposite side of the street caught fire, but the blaze was leached case promptly extinguished.

The Walls Fell In.

At 9:05 the walls of the two upper stories fell with a terrific crash, which precipitated a panic among the thousands of spectators in the street, many of whom feared that some firemen had been injured. Their fears, however, were groundless. The only man injured was Foreman Whalen, of Engine Company 32, who was slightly cut on the head by falling debris, but continued on duty.

Reside the occupants of the burning building, there were many other panic-stricken people in the neighborhood. From 100 to 104 West street, almost in the rear of the blazing structure, the houses are all six-story brick buildings. These are occupied by Italians and their families. There are three three-story brick and one frame tenements, all crowded, also occupied by Italians.

Among these tenants there was the greatest excitement, amounting in some instances to actual panic.

The heat and flying sparks melted the snow on the roofs of these buildings, and added to the already dense smoke.

This caused the already dense smoke to rise and the flames to grow more intense. It was feared that the fire would spread to the neighboring buildings and that the fire would spread to the neighboring buildings.

Finally the police succeeded in stopping the flames in their flight, and as the fire died out the flames began to be calmed.

Several times the wooden stoops of the houses on West street caught fire from the sparks and flying embers, but the blaze was quickly extinguished.

The six-story brick building at 94, 96 and 98 West street, in the rear of the burning building, is occupied entirely by H. Wallach's hat and fur warehouse. It escaped the flames by reason of the thick, heavy walls which surrounded it and heavy iron

shutters. The firm's employees were alarmed, however, and carried all the books and valuable papers across the street to George Heyman & Co.'s clothing factory, where preparations were also made to move out at any moment.

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Mr. Levy owns the houses. His loss is \$5,000. The eight families lose about \$4,000 each and are homeless.

The tenants of the other houses in the row carried out all their furniture and stood guard

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Isaac Wallach, the senior member of the firm, said that their loss would be \$15,000 or \$20,000 from water. Fifteen or twenty lines of hose were laid through the building and the stock was badly soaked. The firm had orders for \$500,000 worth of goods to be filled in six months.

The firm employs about 100 girls on the top floors, and there was a slight panic among them for a time.

At 44 Elizabeth street, across from the fire, is a five-story tenement, and adjoining this P. Mohr & Co.'s furniture factory and Elliott & Cougle's folding-bed factory. All these buildings caught fire, and Police Capt. Warts drove out the tenants.

M. E. & F. E. Schwanke's furniture warehouse in the six-story brick building at 49 to 53 Elizabeth street, and Philip Strobel & Sons' table and chair factory, at 53 and 57 Elizabeth street, were filled with smoke and in great danger. The former firm sustains about \$5,000 loss.

The roof of the tenement-house at 167 Canal street, caught fire from sparks, but the flames were put out by the tenants with snow.

Firemen's Narrow Escapes.

When the walls facing Elizabeth street fell, shortly after 9 o'clock, the street was filled with firemen, employees of adjacent factories and curious sightseers. Engine 55 occupied a position opposite No. 45 on the east side of the street.

The walls trembled and tottered ominously for fully ten minutes, and the police were fearful that when the crash came some of the people crowded directly in front, would be killed or injured. A few minutes later, however, the walls fell and the fire was under control.

It seemed as if the engine must be buried when the wall fell, but the iron framework of the building was not injured. The engine was pulled out of the wall and the fire was under control.

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HIS BODY DIGGED UP. DEAD FROM TYPHUS.

Ghoul's Plunder the Grave of Murderer McGuire.

Centreville People Objected to His Interment in Their Cemetery.

He Was Executed at Sing Sing Three Weeks Ago To-Day.

It was reported in this city today that the body of Fred McGuire, the murderer, who was executed by electricity at Sing Sing, Dec. 19, had been stolen from the cemetery near South Centreville, a little village about six miles south of Middletown, where it had been buried.

This news was brought by Conductor W. F. Morrison, of the Erie Railroad, who lives in Middletown, and who came into town this morning.

McGuire was the murderer of old Mrs. Gregory, of the "Summit," on the Erie road, about a mile from Middletown. He was in the act of committing burglary when he was discovered, and he killed Mrs. Gregory in order to escape.

Conductor Morrison said that the report of the grave robbery has created considerable excitement in Orange county. People believe that the murderer's body was stolen to be sold to some medical college, and others declare that McGuire's friends had something to do with its removal.

There are others, however, who say that the residents of Centreville objected to having a felon's body buried in the same churchyard with their departed friends and relatives, and for this reason spirited it away to parts unknown.

This latter theory is rendered more plausible by the fact that when McGuire's body was dug up, it was found to be in a coffin, and immediately after its execution there was great deal of feeling expressed by people in the vicinity against its interment in the village cemetery.

It is not known exactly when the body-snatching occurred, for the discovery was not made until yesterday, and it appeared that the grave had been dug up for some time.

Some persons who were inclined to believe that the body had been removed for the purpose of attempted resurrection were convinced of their error when it was learned that a complete autopsy had been made at Sing Sing, immediately after McGuire's execution.

CLARKE'S WILL TO STAND.

Mrs. Schell Rises Excitedly When a Question Is Put.

When Surrogate Ransom resumed the hearing in the contest of the will of Richard J. Clarke today, Lawyer McClure, for the contestants, offered in evidence a large number of documents, including stock certificates, life insurance policies, bonds and mortgages and other documents, each of which was catalogued as an exhibit.

This consumed over an hour. Mr. McClure said the papers would show that the estate was worth \$1,000,000, and that the will of Richard J. Clarke was valid.

Lawyer William J. Mitchell was recalled to the stand. He said that he had examined the will of Mr. Clarke's estate and that he was satisfied that it was valid.

Mr. Mitchell was asked whether he was satisfied that the will of Mr. Clarke was valid, and he replied that he was.

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Despite Protests Against Meddling in the Senatorial Fight.

Machine Resolutions Precede the Business of Voting for President.

At 12:15 Secretary of State Frank Rice called the college to order, the members being seated in the Senators' desks around the circle. All of the thirty-six delegates answered to their names.

The Secretary of State administered the oaths of office.

William Steinway, of New York, was then selected as president of the college, on motion of John D. Cronin, seconded by Nelson Smith. He thanked the college briefly for the honor conferred, and then the business of the day was taken up.

The large number of prominent State Democrats present was especially noticeable, due no doubt to the fact that the Governor's reception will be held tonight at the Executive Mansion.

At 12:30 o'clock, on motion of Edward A. Maher, of Albany, a recess was taken for fifteen minutes in order to allow the electors to hold an informal conference. This was carried and a recess taken. The electors then met in conference, J. J. O'Donoghue being elected chairman and William C. Green as secretary.

Mr. O'Donoghue then offered a set of resolutions endorsing the candidacy of Edward Murphy, Jr., for United States senator. These resolutions were adopted.

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